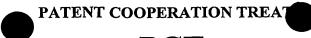
Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 DEC 2004





PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

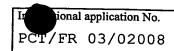
A U. Alexander Claus Comman	 		o m to the contract					
Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER ACT		ication of Transmittal of International Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)					
International application No.	International filing date	(day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)					
PCT/FR2003/002008	27 juin 2003 (2	7.06.2003)	28 juin 2002 (28.06.2002)					
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C02F 1/48								
Applicant SA DESCHAMPS-LATHUS								
 This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. This REPORT consists of a total of								
This report contains indications relations.	ting to the following items	:						
No. 20 Alba marran	No. Desir of the mount							
· 🖂								
II Priority	II Priority							
III Non-establishment	of opinion with regard to n	ovelty, inventive s	tep and industrial applicability					
IV Lack of unity of inv	vention							
V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement								
VI Certain documents	VI Certain documents cited							
VII Certain defects in the	ne international application	ı						
VII Certain observations on the international application								
Date of submission of the demand	I	Date of completion of this report						
29 décembre 2003 (29.1	2.2003)	23 N	ovember 2004 (23.11.2004)					
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	<i>I</i>	Authorized officer						
Facsimile No.	r	Telephone No.						

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (July 1998)

Translation



I. Basis of the report							
1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*							
	\Box	the inte	ternational application as originally filed				
	$\overline{\boxtimes}$	the des	escription:				
	کے	pages	1-20	, as originally filed			
		pages		, filed with the demand			
		pages	Classic Strategic Latter of	,			
	\square	the clai					
		pages	1.12	, as originally filed			
		pages	and all the earth on with one of	atement under Article 19			
		pages	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	, filed with the demand			
		pages					
	Ż	the dra	rawings:				
		pages	· ·	, as originally filed			
		pages		, filed with the demand			
		pages					
		•					
	t	-	nence listing part of the description:	on originally filed			
		pages		filed with the demand			
		pages pages		_, med with the demand			
3.	These	the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)). the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and or 55.3). With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing: contained in the international application in written form.					
	filed together with the international application in computer readable form.						
	\vdash		shed subsequently to this Authority in written form.				
	님		shed subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.	to the state of the state of			
		The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has					
			furnished.	iten sequence usung nas			
4.		The ar	amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:				
			the description, pages				
			the claims, Nos.				
			the drawings, sheets/fig				
5.			report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they hand the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**	ve been considered to go			
•	in th	is repoi	nt sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under ort as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain (Article 14 are referred to amendments (Rule 70.16			
		70.17). 	we short containing such amandments must be seen to see I and amand to this	ranort			
"	· Any r	геріасеп	ment sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item I and annexed to this i	eport.			



v.	Reasoned statement under Article 3 citations and explanations supporting	5(2) with regard to novelty, ng such statement	inventive step or industrial app	licability;
1.	Statement			
	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-13	YES
		Claims		NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-13	YES
		Claims		NO NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-13	YES
		Claims		NO.

2. Citations and explanations

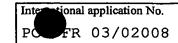
 None of the cited documents relates to a method for treating pipelines containing stagnant water in order to remove contaminants.

The most relevant documents are:

D1: US-A-6 056 884, which describes the continuous pasteurisation of liquids in a device in which the liquid flows through an electrical field. D1 does not describe the formation of a closed loop or the dissipation of electrical energy into heat by Joule effect.

D2: US-A-5 241 147, which discloses the heat treatment of pipes by dissipating electrical energy into heat so as to prevent the formation of hydrates as well as to enhance the transport of liquids such as hydrocarbons.

D3: EP-A-0 685 987, which describes the pasteurisation of liquids in a device in which the conductive tubular reactor walls are connected to an electrical energy generator and said electrical energy is dissipated into heat. D3 does not



describe the formation of a closed loop or the generation of a variable magnetic current through said loop.

It follows that the subject matter of claims 1 and 4 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem that the present invention is intended to solve is that of overcoming the drawbacks of the known method for the heat treatment of the domestic water supply system (see the description, page 2, lines 17-20).

The solution to this problem, as proposed in claims 1 and 4 of the present application, is advantageous in that it involves local heat treatment. This makes it possible to treat only those parts of the system in which bacteria are likely to develop, namely pipelines containing stagnant water. Such local treatment enables energy consumption to be reduced and does not require the system to be put out of service while the method is being carried out.

As a result, this solution is considered to involve an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).

3. The dependent claims also fulfil, as such, the PCT requirements of novelty and inventive step.